

d. Payments for on-the-job or apprenticeship training are not released until after a monthly report of hours worked is processed. If less than 120 hours are worked in a month, less than a full benefit payment is made.

e. Payments for correspondence courses are made each calendar quarter after a certification of lessons completed is processed. (NOTE: Sons and daughters are not eligible for correspondence training.)

7. RESTRICTIONS

a. Benefits may be authorized only for pursuit of approved courses leading to an educational, professional or vocational objective for which you are not already qualified.

b. The law prohibits the approval of courses for recreational or avocational purposes, bartending courses, personality development courses and courses offered by radio.

c. VA benefits are not payable under this program while an eligible person is serving on active duty in the Armed Forces.

d. Benefits cannot be authorized for any courses that are taken by an employee of the Federal government under the Government Employees' Training Act.

e. VA benefits are not payable while an eligible person is in receipt of benefits for the same program from the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs.

f. Benefits are subject to reduction or termination during periods of incarceration in a Federal, State or local correctional facility as the result of conviction for a felony offense.

g. Benefits cannot be paid for audited courses. Further, benefits will not be payable for a course from which you withdraw, or for a course in which you receive a grade that does not count toward graduation, unless acceptable mitigating circumstances are presented.

h. Schools are prohibited by law from cashing VA checks under a power of attorney agreement.

8. CHANGE OF PROGRAM - A change of program is a change of your educational, professional or vocational objective from the objective you were last pursuing if the experience and/or credits you have accumulated are not transferable to your new program at essentially full value.

a. You may be authorized one optional change of program upon your request if progress and conduct in your original program were satisfactory.

b. You may apply for a second (or additional) change of program. However, benefit payments cannot be authorized for the change unless your program is shown to be suitable to your aptitudes, interests and abilities.

c. Additional changes of program, beyond the second change, will be considered only if you submit acceptable evidence to establish that the additional change is required by circumstances beyond your control. You should plan your program of education or training carefully, so that not more than one change of program is necessary.

9. HOW TO APPLY - Select the program you wish to pursue. Then, make sure the course(s) at the school or the program at the training establishment is approved for the enrollment of veterans and eligible persons. You can obtain information about approved courses and programs from the VA regional office serving the area where the school or training establishment is located. If you would like educational or vocational counseling before you select a program of education or training, please refer to paragraph 4. You will be notified of the date, time and place to report for counseling if you request it.

a. Complete the application and send it directly to the VA regional office as early as possible before you plan to enroll; or

b. If you have already enrolled, give your completed application to your school or training establishment for submission to the VA together with an Enrollment Certification, VA Form 22-1999.

10. ADVANCE PAYMENT - You may be eligible for an advance payment for the initial month or partial month of your enrollment plus payment for the following month. Advance payment checks are mailed to your school for delivery to you at the

time of registration, but not earlier than 30 days before your enrollment begins. You may be eligible if:

a. You enroll in an approved institutional educational or vocational program on at least a half-time basis;

b. Your school agrees to process an advance payment;

c. You request an advance payment in writing; and

d. Your application with an enrollment certification and request for advance payment are received by the VA at least 30 days in advance of registration.

Your request for an advance payment may be entered on VA Form 22-1999, Enrollment Certification, or on a separate page attached to the enrollment certification that your school submits to the VA.

11. CHANGES YOU NEED TO REPORT

a. If you reduce or terminate your school attendance or training, or otherwise change your enrollment, inform the certifying official of your school or training establishment to notify the VA immediately. You are responsible for making sure the certifying official notifies the VA of any such changes in your enrollment. You will be responsible for any overpayment resulting from these changes.

b. Promptly notify the VA of any change in your address. Send your complete new address, to include complete ZIP Code.

c. A spouse or surviving spouse must report any change in marital status, to include the following:

(1) separation from the veteran

(2) divorce from the veteran

(3) remarriage following the death of the veteran

d. If you withdraw from a course or courses and your training status is reduced below the level at which benefit payments are being made, or if you complete a course but receive a grade which does not count toward meeting graduation requirements, benefits will ordinarily be reduced or discontinued from the beginning of the term, unless mitigating circumstances are shown. You should report the mitigating circumstances, if any, within 1 year from the date of withdrawal or receipt of a grade which does not count toward graduation.

12. UNSATISFACTORY PROGRESS OR CONDUCT -

Benefits will be discontinued if you fail to maintain satisfactory progress or conduct in accordance with the standards of your school. Resumption of benefits may be authorized if it is shown that the cause for the unsatisfactory progress or conduct has been removed and that the selected program is suitable to your aptitudes, interests and abilities.

13. ELECTION BY SON OR DAUGHTER - An election of Chapter 35 educational benefits is final and cannot be changed. This means that further payments of compensation, pension, or dependency and indemnity compensation based on school attendance after your 18th birthday are prohibited once you cash your first benefit check under this chapter.

IMPORTANT - IF YOU ARE PLANNING A PROGRAM OF EDUCATION LONGER THAN 45 MONTHS, YOU MAY FIND IT TO YOUR ADVANTAGE TO DEFER CHAPTER 35 BENEFITS FOR A TIME AND CONTINUE COMPENSATION, PENSION, OR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION BENEFITS WHICH ARE PAYABLE AS A RESULT OF YOUR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.

If it appears that a deferral of Chapter 35 benefits might be to your advantage, we strongly recommend that you discuss with a VA counselor the various options open to you. A VA counselor can help you plan your program to maximize benefits and can provide help in establishing a future date to elect Chapter 35 benefits. However, if it does not appear that a deferral would be to your advantage, complete Item 27 showing the date from which you wish to elect Chapter 35 benefits.

14. INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE - If you need assistance in the proper completion of this form or if you require further information on VA benefits, contact the VA Regional Office nearest you. Your telephone directory contains a toll-free telephone number for that office.